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March 1, 2004

Dear Prospective Offerors:

Subject: Questions Received in Response to Cooperative Agreement Notice (CAN) No. CAN-03-LTP-01 entitled, "Leading Educators to Applications, Research and NASA-related Educational Resources in Science (LEARNERS) II."

Enclosed for your information are some additional questions NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) has received in response to the issued LEARNERS CAN. As more questions are received they will also be released and posted to the NASA Acquisition Internet Service.

Question No. 1:

Regarding (at least) the NASA Education Technology Program conference this Spring, and (if selected to the short list) the prototype presentation in Washington, DC prior to award, are we responsible for all travel costs?

Response to Question No. 1:

There is no provision in the LEARNERS II CAN to support travel for proposing teams. If a team is selected for award, it is expected that they will have factored travel costs into their proposed budget.

Question No. 2:

In following the instructions in the CAN, we have attempted to send two email messages to info@learners.gsfc.nasa.gov in order to be put in touch with an appropriate Enterprise representative. Both messages have been returned as undeliverable.

Response to Question No. 2:

All questions and comments should be in written format and directed to Lynne.Hoppel@nasa.gov. It is substantially the role of the proposer to ensure that their proposal aligns with an existing NASA mission, program or theme. The Enterprise contacts are intended only as a final review and not as brokers to arrange affiliations.

Question No. 3:

Before we go further in our design, we wanted to check in with you to ensure that this would be a qualifying project. Specifically, do the Challenger Learning Centers qualify for this funding? If so, does the high technology space simulation environment we utilize fall under your definition of "virtual reality"?

Response to Question No. 3:

GSFC cannot provide advanced consideration of ideas and/or proposal strategies for submission. Please note that the Government is not able to provide comments as such would be an unfair competitive advantage to all interested offerors.

Question No. 4:

Section 6.2.4 refers to 'Prototypes', but does not describe the role the prototypes will play in the proposal evaluation process. Can you provide any additional information regarding the prototypes? Should we plan on submitting a prototype or system mock-up at some point during the proposal evaluation process?

Response to Question No. 4:

Section 10.2 PROPOSAL RANKING reads: “The highest-ranking proposals will be forwarded by the Review Panel for funding consideration to the LEARNERS Manager. Once the Review Board has made its recommendations, the Educational Technology Program Office and Learning Technologies Project management will announce a “short list.” Offerors identified on the short list will be identified to demonstrate their prototypes to Educational Technology Program Office, Learning Technology Project management, and NASA Enterprise representatives in Washington, DC.”

Question No. 5:

Instead of the Model LEARNERS Cooperative Agreement, may we submit our existing cooperative agreement, amended to include Section IV of the Model LEARNERS Coop (Appendix E) as an additional task? Or would you recommend submitting a completed Model LEARNERS Cooperative Agreement (i.e., if we received funding, would a separate cooperative agreement be required anyway)?

Response to Question No. 5:

The terms and conditions of the models for the proposed LEARNERS cooperative agreements apply specifically to this procurement and no other. The models were prepared to be as close to the final product as possible, including special requirements, and expected cash and non-cash (in-kind) contributions. Offerors are cautioned to follow the instruction found in the CAN in preparing proposal submissions.

Your continued interest in NASA GSFC’s LEARNERS requirement is appreciated.

Cordially,

Lynne C. Hoppel
Agreement Officer